

From: march@ican.net@inetgw
To: microsoftcomments@doj.ca.gov@inetgw
Date: 11/20/01 1:53pm
Subject: Microsoft civil damages?

Is the Microsoft Civil suit offer of value?

I don't know the details & I can only surmise that Microsoft has few options:

pay a fine
lose face publically
lose opportunity to build market share
or
build market share
build a database of personal user information
build (perceived) dependence
build (perceived) goodwill
do it for free (use money already lost?)

- I believe microsoft knows they would lose & pay
- the poor schools likely couldn't afford to be customers any way
- the coming .net strategy has similarities to cigarette addiction - pay per use
- software duplication is cheap beyond the current installed base
- used, functional computers (p100s, Macs, etc) are practically being given away now

I use many OSs inc W95, DOS, Win 3.1 & choose Mac - it is more productive for me, easier, just plain better & costs MUCH LESS TO KEEP RUNNING... For one I don't worry about viruses, ever...

Microsoft is being sued by the Government while Apple was designated as a 'national treasure'... Does the 'state' lead by example in their purchasing? Or is microsoft dependence just another form of glorified UI?

Why is this so difficult for people to understand & to think beyond the lobbyists...

Dependency can lead to vulnerability - ie. the old addage 'strength in diversity'...

A couple of current articles:

<http://www.junkbusters.com/news.html>

<http://www.theregister.co.uk/content/39/22952.html>

Good luck,

Bruce March Architect
Toronto, Canada

CC: attorney.general@po.state.ct.us@inetgw,ag@oag.stat...